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OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 1997, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled:

"Operational activities for development:

"(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

"(b) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 12th, 13th, 20th, 22nd, 26th, 46th and 47th meetings, on 20, 28, 29 and 31 October, and 2 and 5 December 1997. An account of the Committee's general discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.12, 13, 20, 22, 26, 46 and 47). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 9th meetings, from 13 to 16 October (see A/C.2/52/SR.3-9).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 99 - Operational activities for development

(a) Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (A/52/39);[1]

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/51/655-E/1996/105) entitled "Review of financial resources allocated by the United Nations system to activities of non-governmental organizations" (A/52/114-E/1997/46);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/51/636-E/1996/104) entitled "Coordination of policy and programming frameworks for more effective development cooperation" (A/52/115-E/1997/47);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Coordination of policy and programming frameworks for more effective development cooperation" (A/51/636-E/1996/104);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Review of financial resources allocated by the United Nations system to activities by non-governmental organizations" (A/51/655);

(f) Letter dated 14 March 1997 from the representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the Almaty Declaration (A/52/112);

(g) Letter dated 29 August 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting a statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 29 August 1997 (A/52/318);

(h) Letter dated 23 September 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the twenty-eighth South Pacific Forum (A/52/413);

(i) Letter dated 2 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Okinawa Conference on Development (A/52/436);

(j) Letter dated 1 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the fifty-second session of the General Assembly (A/52/447-S/1997/775);

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[1] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/52/39).

(k) Letter dated 13 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Ministerial Declaration of the Group of 77 adopted on the occasion of the twenty-first annual meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 (A/52/460);

(l) Letter dated 11 November 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/588);

(m) Letter dated 17 November from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the summary report of the Co-Chairmen of the Preparatory Conference of the Second Tokyo International Conference on African Development (A/C.2/52/9);

Item 99 (a) - Operational activities for development of the United Nations system

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on funding modalities of operational activities as requested by the Economic and Social Council (A/52/431);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Strengthening field representation of the United Nations system" (A/52/457) and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon (A/52/457/Add.1);

Item 99 (b) - Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community (A/52/400);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation (A/52/402);

(c) Letter dated 2 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Okinawa Conference on Development (A/52/436);

(d) Letter dated 4 November 1997 from the Permanent Representatives of Japan and Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Bangkok Statement: Furthering Asia-Africa Cooperation, of the Second Asia-Africa Forum (A/52/572);

(e) Letter dated 14 November 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the San José Declaration and San José Plan of Action adopted by the Group of 77 at the South-South Conference on Trade, Investment and Finance (A/C.2/52/8).

4. At the 12th meeting, on 20 October, introductory statements were made by the Chief of the Operational Activities for Development Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under sub-item (a)), the Principal Officer of the Division on Globalization and Development Strategies of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (under sub-item (b)) and the Chairman of the Joint Inspection Unit (see A/C.2/52/SR.12).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.5 and A/C.2/52/L.46

5. At the 20th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.5) entitled "Operational activities for development of the United Nations", which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 44/211 of 22 December 1989, 47/199 of 22 December 1992, 50/120 of 20 December 1995 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/59 of 24 July 1997 and other relevant resolutions,

"Reaffirming that operational activities for development within the United Nations system have a critical and unique role to play in enabling developing countries to continue to take a lead in the management of their own development process,

"Recalling that the General Assembly is the highest intergovernmental mechanism for the formulation and appraisal of policy matters relating to the economic, social and related fields, in accordance with Chapter IX of the Charter of the United Nations, and that the functions and powers of the Economic and Social Council are provided for in Chapters IX and X of the Charter and are elaborated in relevant Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991 and 48/162 of 20 December 1993, in which the Assembly defined the relationship between the Assembly, the Council and the Executive Boards of the funds and programmes, in particular the Council function of overall guidance and coordination of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

"Stressing that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the needs of developing countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities of the United Nations system are carried out for the benefit of the developing countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on funding modalities of operational activities as requested by the Economic and Social Council;[2]

"2. Expresses serious concern at the persistent insufficiency of resources for operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in particular the decline in contributions to core resources;

"3. Strongly reaffirms that the efficiency, effectiveness and impact of the operational activities of the United Nations system must be enhanced by, inter alia, a substantial increase in their funding on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, commensurate with the increasing needs of developing countries, as well as through the full implementation of all relevant resolutions in this regard;

"4. Welcomes the programme review being undertaken by the Executive Boards of the United Nations funds and programmes on their funding schemes, particularly of core resources, with a view to meeting their agreed upon target, reflecting the priorities and needs of programme countries, and increasing the target for voluntary contributions from official sources from the developed countries as the main source of funding of operational activities for the programming cycles, including the present cycle, and, in this regard, urges the Boards to complete the review as soon as possible and to report thereon to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1998;

"5. Acknowledges the supplementary role of non-core resources in financing United Nations operational activities for development;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General, when presenting his comprehensive report on the triennial policy review to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, to take into account intergovernmental response to his reform measures and proposals relevant to operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

"7. Requests the funds and programmes in their regular reporting to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on the triennial policy review to include in their reports, in a clearly identifiable way, actions taken to implement the outcome of the intergovernmental process of the reform measures and proposals of the Secretary-General, including an analysis of the implications of reforms on their respective operational activities as well as on inter-agency coordination;

"8. Requests the Secretariat, by means of a questionnaire and where possible with the facilitation of resident coordinators, to continue the practice of seeking information from Member States on all issues to be considered at the triennial policy review;

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[2] A/52/431.

"9. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the functioning of the United Nations Development Group and its executive committee and their relationship with the existing standing inter-agency coordinating system, and to present therein any new intergovernmental liaison procedures aimed at enhancing transparency and accountability to the Assembly, as well as on continued compliance with the fundamental principles governing operational activities for development of the United Nations system."

6. At the 47th meeting, on 4 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Adel Abdellatif (Egypt), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.46), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.5.

7. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of New Zealand and the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China (see A/C.2/52/SR.47).

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.46 (see para. 19, draft resolution I).

9. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.46, draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.5 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.7 and A/C.2/52/L.36

10. At the 26th meeting, on 31 October, the representative of South Africa, also on behalf of Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Namibia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, the Seychelles, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.7) entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community" and orally revised it as follows:

(a) The eleventh preambular paragraph was replaced by the following:

"Expressing its grave concern at the serious difficulties in the peace process in Angola, as a result of delays in the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol, which are hampering efforts for economic rehabilitation and national reconstruction as well as regional development projects";

(b) A new paragraph was added at the end of the preambular section, which read:

"Emphasizing the urgent need of the countries receiving refugees to be assisted by the international community so as to enable them to cope with the resulting economic, social humanitarian and environmental challenges";

(c) The words "which, together with other efforts, would facilitate the process of rehabilitation and reconstruction of the economy of Angola" were added at the end of operative paragraph 13.

The draft resolution, as orally revised, read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolution 37/248 of 21 December 1982, and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions on the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community,

"Welcoming the strengthening of the Community through the admission of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Seychelles, as member States therein,

"Welcoming also the creation of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security as part of the Community, and its role in conflict prevention and maintenance of peace which are essential for development within the region,

"Recognizing the strengthening of democratic governance and other positive developments, the consolidation of the peace process, the enhancement of democracy and the respect for the rule of law in the region,

"Commending member States of the Community for demonstrating continued commitment to deeper and more formal arrangements for cooperation among themselves and towards the implementation of the Community's Programme of Action as well as its Community Building Programme,

"Reaffirming that the successful implementation of the development programmes of the Community can be achieved only if the Community has adequate resources at its disposal,

"Noting that the effects of war, loss of life and destruction of economic and social infrastructure in southern Africa demand the continuation and strengthening of rehabilitation programmes to regenerate the economies of the countries of the region,

"Noting with grave concern the recurrence of drought in the region and the high probability of the re-emergence of the El Niño phenomenon and the increase of poverty as a result, especially in rural communities,

"Welcoming with satisfaction the regional Food Security Strategy which regards poverty eradication as a prime concern, and in particular addresses the issues of improving access to food and nutrition,

"Recognizing the valuable and effective economic and financial contribution that some organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system have made to complementing national and subregional efforts to advance the process of democratization, rehabilitation and development in southern Africa,

"Expressing its grave concern at the serious difficulties in the peace process in Angola, as a result of delays in the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol, which are hampering efforts for economic rehabilitation and national reconstruction as well as regional development projects,

"Recognizing the risks and challenges posed by the process of globalization and liberalization on the economies of the region,

"Welcoming measures being taken by the Southern African Development Community in addressing the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic,

"Welcoming also the Declaration on Gender and Development adopted by the Community heads of State and/or Government in Blantyre, Malawi, on 8 September 1997, and recognizing the important role that women play in development in the region,

"Emphasizing the urgent need of the countries receiving refugees to be assisted by the international community so as to enable them to cope with the resulting economic, social humanitarian and environmental challenges,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community;[3]

"2. Commends the Member States and the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have maintained, enhanced and initiated development cooperation with the Community;

"3. Calls upon the States Members of the United Nations and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have not yet established contact and relationships with the Community to do so;

"4. Commends the members of the Community for the progress that has been achieved to date in implementing its programme of action;

"5. Expresses its appreciation to the international community for the financial, technical and material support given to the Community;

"6. Reiterates its appeal to the members of the international community to increase their financial, technical and material support to the Community so as to enable it to implement fully its programmes of action and to meet the reconstruction and rehabilitation needs of the region;

"7. Appeals to the international community and to relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to extend appropriate assistance to the Community in order to enable it to advance further the process of regional economic integration;

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[3] A/52/400.

"8. Welcomes the economic and political achievements and reforms undertaken within the Community, which are intended to better address the challenges of regional cooperation and integration now and into the next millennium;

"9. Also welcomes the Community declaration on anti-personnel landmines issued by the Community Summit in Blantyre, Malawi, on 8 September 1997, which would contribute greatly towards regional and international support for the signing of a total ban treaty in Ottawa, Canada, in December 1997, and appeals to the United Nations, its related bodies and the international community to assist and support the Community in its efforts to make the region a landmine-free zone;

"10. Appeals to the United Nations, its related organs and the international community to assist the Community, with the appropriate resources, in implementing the programmes and decisions adopted by various United Nations world conferences, with specific emphasis on the enhancement of the role of women in the development process;

"11. Appeals to the international community as well as to the United Nations system to continue to extend much-needed assistance to those countries of the Community that are engaged in the process of national reconstruction so as to enable them to consolidate their efforts to establish a democracy and enhance the implementation of their national development programmes;

"12. Expresses its appreciation for the substantial contributions of Member States, United Nations organizations and non-governmental organizations towards meeting the needs of the Angolan people and encourages additional substantial contributions;

"13. Appeals to the international community to comply with Security Council resolution 1127 (1997) on Angola which, together with other efforts, would facilitate the process of rehabilitation and reconstruction of the economy in Angola;

"14. Appeals to the United Nations and the international community to assist in the strengthening of the region's capacity for sustainable water resource management and to respond generously with respect to the drought situation in southern Africa so that famine may be averted in the region, by supporting the region in its drought preparedness and management strategies, especially through the strengthening of its capacity to deal with the situation, drought-monitoring early warning and preparedness;

"15. Appeals to the United Nations, its related organs and the international community to extend appropriate assistance to the Community Water Sector and to member States of the Community in order that they may advance further in the implementation of the Protocol on Shared Watercourse systems and in the preparations for the Community Water Sector Round-table Conference scheduled for October 1998;

"16. Calls upon the international community to support the creation of special economic zones and development corridors in the Community, especially the Maputo Development Corridor which is already under implementation with the active participation of the private sector;

"17. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Community, to continue to intensify contacts aimed at promoting and harmonizing cooperation between the United Nations and the Community;

"18. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

11. At the 46th meeting, on 2 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Adel Abdellatif (Egypt), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.36), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.7.

12. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.36 (see para. 19, draft resolution II).

13. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.36, draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.7 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.9 and A/C.2/52/L.44

14. At the 22nd meeting, on 29 October, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.9) entitled "Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries", which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolutions 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, 46/159 of 19 December 1991 on technical cooperation among developing countries, 49/96 of 19 December 1994 on a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation and 50/119 of 20 December 1995 on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation, as well as other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

"Reaffirming further that South-South cooperation constitutes an important element of international cooperation for development and is an essential basis for national and collective self-reliance as well as a means of ensuring the effective participation of the developing countries

in the world economy and that it is not a substitute for, but rather complementary to, North-South cooperation,

"Recognizing the fact that developing countries have the primary responsibility for promoting and implementing economic and technical cooperation among themselves, and reiterating the need for the international community to support the efforts of the developing countries to expand South-South cooperation through the modality of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

"Taking note of the decisions and recommendations contained in the Final Document of the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries,[4] held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in October 1995, and in this context welcoming the operationalization of the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation, in Jakarta in 1998, and inviting all development partners to make use of and give support to the Centre,

"Taking note also of the Declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 at their twenty-first annual meeting,[5] held in New York on 26 September 1997, in which the Ministers emphasized the increasing importance and complementarity of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries as a means of supporting and broadening the global partnership in international development cooperation,

"Welcoming the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the South-South Conference on Trade, Finance and Investment, held at San José, Costa Rica, from 15 to 19 January 1997, which outlined concrete modalities on sectoral issues relating to trade, finance, investment and enterprise cooperation,

"Welcoming further the outcome of the Asia-Africa Forum II, held at Bangkok in June 1997, as a mechanism to strengthen South-South cooperation, as well as the convening of the Second Tokyo International Conference on African Development in October 1998, and calling upon the international community to reaffirm its commitment in supporting Africa's development efforts;

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[4] See A/50/752-S/1995/1035, annex III; see Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995, document S/1995/1035.

[5] A/52/460, annex.

"1. Endorses the report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on its tenth session[6] and the decisions adopted by the High-level Committee at that session;[7]

"2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation,[8] which provides a comprehensive and systematic overview and analysis of economic cooperation among developing countries in the context of South-South cooperation worldwide and of United Nations system support for such cooperation;

"3. Takes note also of the draft revised Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, submitted by the Administrative Committee on Coordination, and recommends that the draft revised Guidelines be submitted through the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session in the context of the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

"4. Invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries of the United Nations Development Programme, as well as other relevant organizations, to jointly undertake further work on formulating concrete recommendations on the follow-up and implementation of the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the South-South Conference on Trade, Finance and Investment;

"5. Decides to intensify the process of strengthening the various interregional dialogues and the exchange of experiences among subregional and regional economic groupings for the purposes of expanding South-South cooperation through integrating the modalities of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries;

"6. Calls upon all Governments and relevant United Nations organizations, including the multilateral financial institutions, to consider increasing allocations of resources for economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and to identify and support innovative funding modalities to promote South-South cooperation, such as triangular cooperation and private sector funding;

"7. Welcomes the contribution made by some countries to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation, and invites all countries, especially developed countries, to contribute generously to the Trust Fund;

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[6] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/52/39).

[7] Ibid., annex I.

[8] A/52/402.

"8. Urges all parties in the development cooperation to make concerted, coordinated and vigorous efforts towards mainstreaming the modalities of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries in their operational activities by providing full support in the design, formulation, implementation and evaluation of programmes and projects;

"9. Decides to hold a commemorative meeting during the fifty-third session of the General Assembly to mark the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[9] and to this end requests the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, in its capacity as substantive secretariat of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries as well as system-wide coordinator on technical cooperation among developing countries, to be responsible for the preparation and organization of the commemorative meeting, in consultation with the Member States and relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system;

"10. Also requests the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, in consultation with the Member States and relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare and submit, through the Economic and Social Council for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, a comprehensive assessment of the progress made in the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and its impact since its adoption, as well as recommendations for the broadening of the global partnership in international development cooperation and strengthening the integration of the modalities of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries, in the context of the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

"11. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, in the context of the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, on the implementation of the present resolution;

"12. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the sub-item entitled 'Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries'."

15. At the 47th meeting, on 2 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Adel Abdellatif (Egypt), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.44), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.9, and corrected the text in operative paragraph 4, in the sixth line, by inserting the words "San José" before the word "Declaration".

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[9] Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.44, as orally corrected (see para. 19, draft resolution III).

17. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.44, draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.9 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

D. Draft decision

18. At the 47th meeting, on 4 December, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of a number of documents before it under the item (see para. 20).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

19. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Operational activities for development of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/211 of 22 December 1989, 47/199 of 22 December 1992, 50/120 of 20 December 1995 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/59 of 24 July 1997 and other relevant resolutions,

Reaffirming that operational activities for development within the United Nations system have a critical and unique role to play in enabling developing countries to continue to take a lead in the management of their own development process, and that the funds and programmes constitute important vehicles for advancing international development cooperation,

Recalling that the General Assembly is the highest intergovernmental mechanism for the formulation and appraisal of policy matters relating to the economic, social and related fields, in accordance with Chapter IX of the Charter of the United Nations, and that the functions and powers of the Economic and Social Council are provided for in Chapters IX and X of the Charter and are elaborated in relevant Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991 and 48/162 of 20 December 1993, in which the Assembly defined the relationship between the Assembly, the Council and the Executive Boards of the funds and programmes, in particular the Council function of overall guidance and coordination of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Stressing that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the needs of developing countries in a flexible

manner, and that the operational activities of the United Nations system are carried out for the benefit of the developing countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development,

Recognizing the need to take into account the individual mandates and complementarities of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations development system, and the priorities agreed in the Executive Boards of the funds and programmes,

Expressing serious concern at the persistent insufficiency of resources for operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in particular the decline in contributions to core resources,

Recognizing the need for priority allocation for scarce grant resources to programmes and projects in low-income countries, in particular the least developed countries,

Recognizing that the United Nations development system should take into account the specific needs and requirements of the countries with economies in transition,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on funding modalities of operational activities, as requested by the Economic and Social Council;[10]

2. Strongly reaffirms the need for a substantial increase in resources for operational activities for development on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, commensurate with the increasing needs of the developing countries;

3. Stresses the need for a continuous overall improvement in the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of the United Nations system in delivering its development assistance, and welcomes steps which have been taken towards that end;

4. Stresses that other countries that are in a position to do so should strive to augment their assistance in the framework of development cooperation;

5. Recalls that the Executive Boards of the United Nations funds and programmes, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/227, should initiate work on reviewing their funding policies and strategies with a view to meeting their agreed upon targets, particularly of core resources as the main source of funding of operational activities;

6. Calls upon the governing bodies of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund and the World Food Programme to adopt a specific and achievable target for

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[10] A/52/431.

core resources for the period 1999/2001, taking into account the relationship between their programme arrangements and financial plans;

7. Urges the Executive Boards to complete the review as soon as possible, and to report thereon to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1998;

8. Acknowledges the supplementary role of non-core resources in enhancing the financing of the United Nations operational activities for development;

9. Requests the Secretary-General, when presenting his comprehensive report on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system at the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, to consider the implications of steps adopted by the United Nations system to implement reform initiatives on operational activities, and to make recommendations for their effective and expeditious implementation, bearing in mind the views of Member States;

10. Also requests the funds and programmes in their regular reporting on the triennial policy review to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council, to include in their reports, to the extent possible and in a clearly identifiable way, actions taken to implement adopted reform measures of the Secretary-General, including an analysis of the implications of those reforms for operational activities as well as for inter-agency coordination;

11. Welcomes the ongoing efforts of the Secretariat to seek information from Member States on all issues to be considered by the triennial policy review, invites Member States to actively participate in that important data-collection exercise, including through timely completion of the relevant questionnaire, and to the extent needed requests the resident coordinators to facilitate its successful implementation;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive analysis of the implementation of its resolution 50/120, as well as subsequent relevant decisions and resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in the context of the triennial policy review, and to make appropriate recommendations.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 37/248 of 31 December 1982, and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions on the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community,

Welcoming the strengthening of the Community through the admission of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Seychelles, as member States therein,

Welcoming also the creation of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security as part of the Community, and its role in conflict prevention and maintenance of peace which are essential for development within the region,

Recognizing the strengthening of democratic governance and other positive developments, the consolidation of the peace process, the enhancement of democracy and the respect for the rule of law in the region,

Commending member States of the Community for demonstrating continued commitment to deeper and more formal arrangements for cooperation among themselves,

Reaffirming that the successful implementation of the development programmes of the Community can be achieved only if the Community has adequate resources at its disposal,

Noting that the effects of war, loss of life and destruction of economic and social infrastructure in southern Africa demand the continuation and strengthening of rehabilitation programmes to regenerate the economies of the countries of the region,

Noting with grave concern the recurrence of drought in the areas, the re-emergence of the El Niño phenomenon, with its probable effect of drought, and the risk of increased poverty, in particular in rural areas,

Welcoming with satisfaction the regional Food Security Strategy which regards poverty eradication as a prime concern, and in particular addresses the issues of improving access to food and nutrition,

Recognizing the valuable and effective economic and financial contribution that some organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system have made to complementing national and subregional efforts to advance the process of democratization, rehabilitation and development in southern Africa,

Noting that the situation in Angola has recently become a source of great concern and that, despite earlier successes in the implementation of certain aspects of the Angolan peace process, that situation is still deteriorating,

Expressing its grave concern at the serious difficulties in the peace process in Angola, caused primarily by the slowness of the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola in the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol,[11] which are hampering efforts towards economic rehabilitation and national reconstruction as well as regional development projects,

Recognizing the risks, new challenges and opportunities posed by the process of globalization and liberalization on the economies of the region,

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[11] S/1994/1441, annex.

Noting the measures being taken by the Community in addressing the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic,

Welcoming the recognition at the regional level of the important role that women play in the development of the region and taking note of the Declaration on Gender and Development adopted by the Community heads of State and/or Government in Blantyre, Malawi, on 8 September 1997,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community;[12]

2. Commends the Member States and the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have maintained, enhanced and initiated development cooperation with the Community;

3. Calls upon the States Members of the United Nations and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have not yet established contact and relationships with the Community to explore the possibility of doing so;

4. Expresses its appreciation to the international community for the financial, technical and material support given to the Community;

5. Renews its appeal to the international community to maintain current levels of, and increase where appropriate, its financial, technical and material support to the Community in order to enable it to implement fully its programme of action and to meet the reconstruction and rehabilitation needs of the region;

6. Appeals to the international community and to relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to extend appropriate assistance to the Community in order to enable it to advance further the process of regional economic integration;

7. Welcomes the economic and political achievements and reforms undertaken within the Community, including the implementation of its programme of action, which are intended to better address the challenges of regional cooperation and integration now and into the next millennium;

8. Also welcomes the Community's efforts to make southern Africa a landmine-free zone, which resulted from a decision of the Community to de-mine the region and reclaim the land for productive purposes, and in this context takes note of the Community's Declaration on Anti-personnel Landmines issued by the Community Summit in Blantyre, Malawi, on 8 September 1997, and appeals to the United Nations, its related bodies and the international community to assist and support the Community in its efforts;

9. Appeals to the United Nations, its related organs and the international community to assist the Community, with the appropriate resources, in implementing the programmes and decisions adopted by various United Nations

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[12] A/52/400.

world conferences, with specific emphasis on the enhancement of the role of women in the development process;

10. Appeals to the international community as well as to the United Nations system to continue to extend much-needed assistance to those countries of the Community that are engaged in the process of national reconstruction so as to enable them to consolidate their efforts to establish a democracy and enhance the implementation of their national development programmes;

11. Expresses its appreciation for the substantial contributions of Member States, United Nations organizations and non-governmental organizations towards meeting the needs of the Angolan people and encourages additional substantial contributions;

12. Appeals to the international community to comply with all relevant Security Council resolutions on Angola pertaining to the peace process, which, together with other efforts, would facilitate the process of rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Angolan economy;

13. Expresses its conviction of the importance of sound, inclusive development strategies to avoid conflict and dislocation, recognizes the value of international cooperation, peacemaking and peacekeeping efforts, and stresses the need for the international community to continue to assist those countries receiving refugees in coping with the resulting economic, social, humanitarian and environmental challenges;

14. Appeals to the United Nations and the international community to assist in the strengthening of the region's capacity for sustainable water resource management and to respond generously with respect to the drought situation in southern Africa so that famine may be averted in the region, by supporting the region in its drought preparedness and management strategies, especially through the strengthening of its capacity to deal with the situation, drought-monitoring early warning and preparedness;

15. Appeals to the United Nations, its related organs and the international community to extend appropriate assistance to the Community Water Sector and to member States of the Community in order that they may advance further in the implementation of the Protocol on Shared Watercourse Systems and in their preparations for the Community Water Sector Round-table Conference scheduled for October 1998;

16. Calls upon the international community to consider supporting the creation of special economic zones and development corridors in the Community, especially the Maputo Development Corridor which is already under implementation with the active participation of the private sector;

17. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Community, to continue to intensify contacts aimed at promoting and harmonizing cooperation between the United Nations and the Community;

18. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[13] 46/159 of 19 December 1991 on technical cooperation among developing countries, 49/96 of 19 December 1994 on a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation and 50/119 of 20 December 1995 on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation, as well as other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Reaffirming further that South-South cooperation constitutes an important element of international cooperation for development and is an essential basis for national and collective self-reliance as well as a means of ensuring the effective integration and participation of the developing countries in the world economy and that it is not a substitute for, but rather complementary to, North-South cooperation,

Recognizing the fact that developing countries have the primary responsibility for promoting and implementing economic and technical cooperation among themselves, and reiterating the need for the international community to support the efforts of the developing countries to expand South-South cooperation through the modality of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Taking note of the decisions and recommendations contained in the Final Document of the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries,[14] held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in October 1995, and in this context welcoming the operationalization of the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation, in Jakarta in 1998, and inviting all development partners to make use of and give support, as appropriate, to the Centre,

Also taking note of the Declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 at their twenty-first annual meeting,[15] held in

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[13] Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[14] See A/50/752-S/1995/1035, annex III; see Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995, document S/1995/1035.

[15] A/52/460, annex.

New York on 26 September 1997, in which the Ministers emphasized the increasing importance and complementarity of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries as a means of supporting and broadening the global partnership in international development cooperation,

Welcoming the San José Declaration and Plan of Action[16] adopted by the South-South Conference on Trade, Finance and Investment, held at San José, Costa Rica, from 15 to 19 January 1997, which outlined concrete modalities on sectoral issues relating to trade, finance, investment and enterprise cooperation,

Also welcoming the outcome of the Second Asia-Africa Forum,[17] held at Bangkok from 11 to 13 June 1997, as a mechanism to strengthen South-South cooperation, as well as the convening of the Second Tokyo International Conference on African Development in Japan in October 1998,[18] and calling upon the international community to reaffirm its commitment in supporting Africa's development efforts,

1. Endorses the report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on its tenth session[19] and the decisions adopted by the High-level Committee as contained in annex I of its report;[20]

2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation,[21] which provides a comprehensive and systematic overview and analysis of economic cooperation among developing countries in the context of South-South cooperation worldwide and of United Nations system support for such cooperation;

3. Also takes note of the draft revised Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, submitted by the Administrative Committee on Coordination, and recommends that the draft revised Guidelines be submitted through the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session in the context of the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

4. Invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries of the United

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[16] A/C.2/52/8, annex.

[17] See A/52/572.

[18] See A/C.2/52/9.

[19] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/52/39).

[20] Ibid., annex I.

[21] A/52/402.

Nations Development Programme, as well as other relevant organizations, taking into account their agreed mandates, work programmes and priorities, to jointly undertake further work on formulating concrete recommendations on the follow-up and implementation of the San José Declaration and Plan of Action[16] adopted by the South-South Conference on Trade, Finance and Investment;

5. Stresses the need to intensify the process of strengthening the various interregional dialogues and the exchange of experiences among subregional and regional economic groupings for the purposes of expanding South-South cooperation through integrating the modalities of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries;

6. Calls upon all Governments and relevant United Nations organizations, including the multilateral financial institutions, to consider increasing allocations for economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and to identify new funding modalities to promote South-South cooperation, such as triangular cooperation and private sector funding;

7. Welcomes the contribution made by some countries to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation, and invites all countries, including developed countries, to contribute to the Trust Fund;

8. Urges the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and invites other relevant intergovernmental organizations involved in international development cooperation to make concerted and vigorous efforts to mainstream the implementation of modalities of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries by giving them full consideration in the design, formulation, implementation and evaluation of programmes and projects in their operational activities;

9. Decides to hold a one-day commemorative meeting at the beginning of the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the first report of the General Committee,[22] to mark the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[13] and to that effect requests the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, in its capacity as substantive secretariat of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and system-wide coordinator on technical cooperation among developing countries, to be responsible for the preparation and organization of the commemorative meeting, including the provision of adequate documentation, in consultation with Member States and relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system;

10. Also decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session an item entitled "Commemorative meeting of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries";

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[22] A/52/250.

11. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and in consultation with Member States and relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, to incorporate in his report for the triennial policy review of operational activities for development for consideration at the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, an assessment and recommendations aimed at further strengthening the integration of the modalities of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries in the operational activities of the United Nations system, with a view to enhancing the global partnership in international development cooperation;

12. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries", and in that context requests the Secretary-General to report to it at that session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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20. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Documents relating to operational activities for development

The General Assembly takes note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries;[23]

(b) Report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Review of financial resources allocated by the United Nations system to activities of non-governmental organizations"[24] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon;[25]

(c) Report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Coordination of policy and programming frameworks for more effective development cooperation"[26] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon;[27]

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[23] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/52/39).

[24] A/51/655-E/1996/105.

[25] A/52/114-E/1997/46.

[26] A/51/636-E/1996/104.

[27] A/52/115-E/1997/47.

(d) Report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Strengthening field representation of the United Nations system"[28] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon.[29]

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[28] A/52/457.

[29] A/52/457/Add.1.

UNITED
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General Assembly

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9 December 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-second session
Agenda item 100

TRAINING AND RESEARCH: UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 1997, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Training and Research: United Nations Institute for Training and Research" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 17th, 41st and 49th meetings, on 24 October, 13 November and 5 December 1997. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.17, 41 and 49). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 9th meetings, from 13 to 16 October (see A/C.2/52/SR.3-9).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report approved by the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, entitled "Completion of the restructuring of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 47/227" (A/52/367);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on training and research: United Nations Institute for Training and Research (A/52/492);

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(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Training institutions in the United Nations system: programmes and activities" (A/52/599).

4. At the 17th meeting, on 24 October, the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/52/SR.17).

5. At the 41st meeting, on 13 November, the representative of the Joint Inspection Unit made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/52/SR.41).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/52/L.32 AND A/C.2/52/L.52

6. At the 43rd meeting, on 19 November, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, and Australia, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.32) entitled "United Nations Institute for Training and Research", which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 47/227 of 8 April 1993, 48/207 of 21 December 1993, 49/125 of 19 December 1994, 50/121 of 20 December 1995 and 51/188 of 16 December 1996,

"Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[1] the report approved by the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, entitled "Completion of the restructuring of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 47/227",[2] and the report of the Joint Inspection Unit,[3]

"Welcoming the successful restructuring of the Institute and the recent progress made by the Institute in its various programmes and activities, including the improved cooperation that has been established with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

"Expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

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[1] A/52/492.

[2] A/52/367, annex.

[3] A/52/559, annex.

"Reiterating that the funding of training programmes offered at the specific request of States or departments and units of the Organization and other organs of the United Nations system and the specialized agencies should be arranged by the requesting parties,

"Recognizing that training activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

"1. Reaffirms the particular role of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in view of the growing importance of training within the United Nations and the training requirements of States, and the pertinence of research activities related to training undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

"2. Invites the Institute to further strengthen its cooperation with other United Nations institutes and relevant national, regional and international institutes, as well as in relation to projects;

"3. Renews its appeal to all Governments and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in the light of the successful restructuring and revitalization of the Institute;

"4. Endorses the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit for an effective division of labour among United Nations training institutions, namely:

"(a) To entrust the United Nations Institute for Training and Research with, in addition to its current activities, clearing-house functions as regards the needs of personnel from States;

"(b) To request the United Nations University to continue its role as the lead entity dealing with research, including research into common training policies;

"(c) To have the United Nations Staff College Project - once its legal status has been modified from its present status as a project - focus on clearing-house functions as regards the training of United Nations systems staff members;

"5. Welcomes the initiative of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Director to explore the possibility of the Institute becoming an executing agent or partner of the agencies and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training programmes, especially those for developing countries and countries in transition;

"6. Calls on the Secretary-General to explore ways and means to provide additional facilities to the Institute for conducting programmes and training courses that are provided at no cost to States, and to their representatives accredited to United Nations offices in New York, Nairobi, Geneva and Vienna;

"7. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Director of the Institute, as well as with the heads of United Nations funds and programmes, to explore ways and modalities to systematically utilize the Institute in the execution of training and capacity-building programmes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session."

7. At the 49th meeting, on 5 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Adel Abdellatif (Egypt), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.52), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.32.

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.52, (see para. 10).

9. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.52, draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.32 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/227 of 8 April 1993, 48/207 of 21 December 1993, 49/125 of 19 December 1994, 50/121 of 20 December 1995 and 51/188 of 16 December 1996,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[4] the report of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research on the activities of the Institute[5] and the report of the Joint Inspection Unit,[6]

Welcoming the successful restructuring of the Institute and the recent progress made by the Institute in its various programmes and activities,

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[4] A/52/492.

[5] A/52/367, annex.

[6] A/52/559, annex.

including the improved cooperation that has been established with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Reiterating that the funding of training programmes offered at the specific request of States or departments and units of the Organization and other organs of the United Nations system and the specialized agencies should be arranged by the requesting parties,

Recognizing that training activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. Reaffirms the relevance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in view of the growing importance of training within the United Nations and the training requirements of States, and the pertinence of research activities related to training undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

2. Invites the Institute to further strengthen its cooperation with other United Nations institutes and relevant national, regional and international institutes, as well as with projects;

3. Renews its appeal to all Governments and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in the light of the successful restructuring and revitalization of the Institute;

4. Stresses the need for an effective division of labour among the main training and research institutions of the United Nations system, taking into account the distinct and complementary mandates of the United Nations University, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and the United Nations Staff College Project, and in this regard notes the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit;

5. Also stresses the need for better coordination among the main training and research institutions of the United Nations system and, in this regard, notes the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit;

6. Further stresses in this regard the need for the General Assembly to consider all major training issues in a coherent manner without prejudice to its resolution 50/227;

7. Welcomes the initiative of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Director to explore the possibilities for the Institute to become a partner of the agencies and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training programmes, especially for developing countries and countries in transition consistent with the division of labour;

8. Requests the Board of Trustees to attract, to the extent possible, experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the preparation of the relevant training materials for the programmes and activities of the Institute;

9. Calls on the Secretary-General to explore all possible ways and means to provide additional facilities to the Institute for conducting programmes and training courses that are provided at no cost to States, and to their representatives accredited to United Nations offices in New York, Nairobi, Geneva and Vienna;

10. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Institute, as well as with the United Nations funds and programmes, to explore ways and modalities to systematically utilize the Institute in the execution of training and capacity-building programmes;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

UNITED NATIONS **A**

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Fifty-second session
Agenda item 101

PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY, INCLUDING JERUSALEM, AND OF THE ARAB POPULATION IN THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN OVER THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 1997, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources" and to allocate it to the Second Committee (see A/C.2/52/1).

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 15th, 20th and 46th meetings, on 22 and 28 October and on 2 December 1997. An account of the Committee's general discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.15, 20 and 46). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 9th meetings, from 13 to 16 October (see A/C.2/52/SR.3-9).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and on the Arab population of the Syrian Golan (A/52/172-E/1997/71 and Corr.1);

(b) Letter dated 1 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting

the communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, issued on 25 September 1997 (A/52/447-S/1997/775).

4. At the 15th meeting, on 22 October, an introductory statement was made by the Chief of the Regional Commissions' New York Office (see A/C.2/52/SR.15).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/52/L.6 AND A/C.2/52/L.6/Rev.1

5. At the 20th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of Yemen, on behalf of Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources" (A/C.2/52/L.6). Subsequently, Algeria joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 51/190 of 16 December 1996 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/67 of 25 July 1997,

"Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

"Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions,[1] including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

"Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

"Expressing concern at the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

"Aware of the additional, detrimental economic and social impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources,

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[1] United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

"Expressing concern at the difficulties facing the Middle East peace process which started at Madrid on 30 October 1991 and which is based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the principle of land for peace,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

"2. Reaffirms the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land and water;

"3. Calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, to cause loss or depletion of or to endanger the natural resources in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

"4. Recognizes the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, loss or depletion of, or danger to, their natural resources, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with in the framework of the final status negotiation between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-third session, on the implementation of this resolution, and decides to include in the agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled 'Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources'."

6. At the 46th meeting, on 2 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Adel Abdellatif (Egypt), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and drew the attention of the Committee to a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.6/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.6, as well as Indonesia, Malaysia and Mauritania. Subsequently Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

7. Also at the 46th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Israel, the United States of America and Jordan (see A/C.2/52/SR.46).

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.6/Rev.1, by a recorded vote of 124 to 2, with 13 abstentions (see para. 10). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic,

[2] A/52/172-E/1997/71.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Latvia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Paraguay, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Uruguay.

9. After the draft resolution was adopted, statements were made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic, Japan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Russian Federation, Luxembourg (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the observer for Palestine (see A/C.2/52/SR.46).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/190 of 16 December 1996 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/67 of 25 July 1997,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions,[3] including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Expressing concern at the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Aware of the additional, detrimental economic and social impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources,

Expressing concern at the difficulties facing the Middle East peace process which started at Madrid on 30 October 1991 and which is based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the principle of land for peace, as well as concern over the lack of implementation of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, signed in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[4] and the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, of 28 September 1995,[5]

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;[6]

2. Reaffirms the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land and water;

3. Calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, to cause loss or depletion of or to endanger the natural resources in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

4. Recognizes the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, loss or depletion of, or danger to, their natural resources, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with in the framework of the final status negotiation between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

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[3] United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

[4] A/48/486-S/26560.

[5] A/51/889-S/1997/357.

[6] A/52/172-E/1997/71.

5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-third session, on the implementation of this resolution, and decides to include in the agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

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Fifty-second session
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mrs. Mónica MARTÍNEZ (Ecuador)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 19 September 1997, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council".

2. At the same meeting, the General Assembly decided to allocate to the Third Committee chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council[1] that were to be considered under the relevant items of the agenda (see A/C.3/52/1).

3. The Third Committee considered the item at its 50th meeting, on 26 November 1997. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the summary record of the meeting (A/C.3/52/SR.50).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Economic and Social Council for the year 1997 (A/52/3).

[1] To be issued in final form as Official Records of the General Assembly, fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/52/3/Rev.1).

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II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Organization of work of the Third Committee and draft biennial programme of work of the Committee for 1998-1999

5. At the 50th meeting, on 26 November, the representative of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services introduced the note by the Secretariat (A/C.3/52/L.77) entitled "Organization of work of the Third Committee and draft biennial programme of work of the Committee for 1998-1999" (see A/C.3/51/SR.50).

6. At the same meeting, statements were made and questions raised by the representatives of the United States of America, Austria, Luxembourg (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are Members of the United Nations), Mexico, Australia and Côte d'Ivoire. The representative of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services responded to the questions raised.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee approved the organization of work and the draft biennial programme of work for 1998-1999 as orally revised (see para. 9, draft decision I).

B. Report of the Economic and Social Council

8. At the 50th meeting, on 26 November, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council (see para. 9, draft decision II).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

9. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

DRAFT DECISION I

The General Assembly, pursuant to its resolutions 45/175 of 18 December 1990, 46/140 of 17 December 1991 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996, approves the organization of work of the Third Committee and the biennial programme of work of the Committee for 1998-1999, as contained in annexes I and II to the present decision.

ANNEX I

Organization of work of the Third Committee

A. GUIDELINES CONCERNING TIME LIMITS OF STATEMENTS

1. In accordance with rule 106 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and paragraph 22 of decision 34/401 on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the General Assembly, at the beginning of each session, the Chairman of the Third Committee should propose to the Committee the limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers.

2. Further to General Assembly resolutions 45/175 of 18 December 1990 and 46/140 of 17 December 1991, on the rationalization of the work of the Third Committee, statements made by delegations and by Secretariat officials, unless decided otherwise by the Committee at the beginning of the session, should not exceed 7 minutes. Statements made on behalf of a group of delegations or made in connection with the sub-items under the agenda item on human rights questions should not exceed 15 minutes. These time limits will be applied with a degree of flexibility towards all speakers. With a view to saving time, all speakers are encouraged to exercise self-discipline, in particular delegations associated with group statements. For practical reasons, group statements are encouraged for the first day of the discussion of an item or sub-item. In this connection, it is important to emphasize the timely distribution of documentation in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Assembly, in order to enable delegations to inscribe themselves on the list of speakers at an early stage.

B. DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ON REPORTS OF TREATY BODIES AND REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE STATUS OF THE TREATIES

3. Reports of all treaty bodies will be submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with their respective legislative mandates. Substantive resolutions on those reports should be adopted biennially, in accordance with the programme of work of the Third Committee. Where possible, it is recommended that separate draft resolutions on the status of the treaties should not be submitted but should be incorporated in the draft resolution relating to the report of the treaty body. In alternate years, the Committee should simply take note of the reports unless more substantive action is deemed appropriate.

C. DRAFT PROPOSALS EMANATING FROM SUBSIDIARY ORGANS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

4. The Economic and Social Council, in transmitting draft proposals to the General Assembly should, to the extent possible, bear in mind the programme of work of the Third Committee.

D. PROGRAMME OF WORK

5. An informal meeting of the Third Committee should be held immediately after the election of the members of its Bureau in order to consider the programme of work of the Committee based on a draft to be prepared by the Secretariat and to consider other organizational aspects relating to the Committee's work, especially the status of documentation.

6. The items allocated to the Third Committee for consideration during the fifty-third session of the General Assembly should be taken up in the following order:

Item 2. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Item 3. Crime prevention and criminal justice

Item 4. International drug control

Item 5. Advancement of women

Item 6. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women

Item 7. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Item 8. Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Item 9. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Item 10. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination[2]

Item 11. Right of peoples to self-determination[2]

Item 12. Human rights questions[3] [4]

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments;

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[2] Items 10 and 11 are to be discussed jointly. Delegates may make two separate statements, i.e., one on each item, if they so wish.

[3] Sub-items (a) and (d) are to be discussed separately; sub-items (b), (c) and (e) are to be discussed jointly.

[4] Delegations may make one statement each under sub-items (a) and (d) and two statements under sub-items (b), (c) and (e), but should not make two statements on any one sub-item.

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

(e) Report of the United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights.

Item 1. Report of the Economic and Social Council

7. This arrangement may be reviewed at the organizational meeting of the Third Committee particularly in the light of the status of documentation at that time.

E. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

8. In drawing up draft resolutions, delegations are requested to adhere to the programme of work of the Third Committee as reproduced below.

9. Delegations are invited to take into account the general guidelines agreed upon in resolutions 45/175 and 46/140 regarding the submission of draft proposals and as set out below:[5]

Item 1. Report of the Economic and Social Council

Matters calling for action by the General Assembly (Third Committee) or brought to its attention

Questions that do not fall within the purview of the other items on the agenda of the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee

Item 2. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Annual

World social situation

Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, International Year of Older Persons and related activities (annual to 1999)

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[5] References to "odd" and "even" years refer to calendar years.

Biennial

Implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond (odd years)

Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (odd years)

Policies and programmes involving youth (odd years)

Implementation of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future (odd years)

Cooperation to achieve education for all (odd years)

Triennial

Role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends (1999)

Quinquennial

Anniversary of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development (1999)

Review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (2002)

Item 3. Crime prevention and criminal justice

Annual

Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, particularly its technical cooperation capacity

United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Question of the elaboration of an international convention against organized transnational crime (1998)

Preparations for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (to 1999)

Biennial

International cooperation in combating organized crime (even years)

Crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women (1999)

Quinquennial

United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (2000)

Item 4. International drug control

Annual

Implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control and the Global Programme of Action against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances; international action to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking; respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law in the fight against drug abuse and illicit trafficking; United Nations International Drug Control Programme; measures to strengthen international cooperation against the illicit production, sale, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related matters

Special session of the General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities

Biennial

Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (even years)

Update of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control (even years)

Item 5. Advancement of women

Annual

Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

Traffic in women and girls

Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls (1998)

United Nations Development Fund for Women

Biennial

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (even years)

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (odd years)

Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (odd years)

Violence against women migrant workers (odd years)

Item 6. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women

Annual

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace

High-level review to appraise and assess the progress achieved in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the Beijing Platform for Action (to the year 2000)

Item 7. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Annual

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

Follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States (1998)

Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors

Biennial

New international humanitarian order (even years)

Quinquennial

Extension of the mandate of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2002)

Item 8. Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Annual

Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child; children with disabilities; prevention and eradication of the sale of children, and of their sexual exploitation, including child prostitution and child pornography; protection of children affected by armed conflicts; the girl child; refugee and internally displaced children; elimination of the exploitation of child labour; plight of children living and/or working on the streets

Biennial

Convention on the Rights of the Child (even)

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (even)

Item 9. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Annual

International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations

Item 10. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Annual

Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid

Financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Biennial

Status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (even years)

Item 11. Right of peoples to self-determination

Annual

Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights

Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

Use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination (to be considered biennially after the entry into force of the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries)

Item 12. Human rights questions

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments

Annual

Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (biennially after the entry into force of the Convention)

Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (1998)

Biennial

Report of the Committee against Torture and status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (even years)

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (even years)

Status of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (even years)

International Covenants on Human Rights (odd years)

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Annual

Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Right to development

Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

Strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

United Nations Decade on Human Rights Education and public information activities in the field of human rights

Strengthening of the rule of law

Respect for universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification

Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

Protection of United Nations personnel

Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

Biennial

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (even years)

Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights (even years)

Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances (even years)

Human rights and terrorism (odd years)

National institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights (odd years)

Human rights and extreme poverty (even years)

Follow-up to the United Nations Year for Tolerance (even years)

Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (odd years)

Human rights and mass exoduses (odd years)

Human rights in the administration of justice (odd years)

Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes (odd years)

Enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections (odd years)

Human rights and scientific and technological progress (odd years)

Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons (odd years)

Quinquennial

Award of human rights prizes (1998)

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Annual

Implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights

Five-year review of the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights (1998)

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Annual

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

ANNEX II

Draft biennial programme of work of the Third Committee for 1998-1999

1998[6]

Item 1. Report of the Economic and Social Council

Matters calling for action by the General Assembly (Third Committee) or brought to its attention

Documentation

Relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council on questions that do not fall within the purview of the other items on the agenda of the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee

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[6] The programme of work and documentation for 1998 will be revised in the light of the relevant decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council in 1998.

Item 2. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.2 on the International Year of Older Persons

Question for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth and World Youth Forum (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.13)

Item 3. Crime prevention and criminal justice

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council, including the information on progress achieved in the implementation of the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime requested in draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.4

Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.5)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.22)

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, particularly its technical cooperation capacity (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.23)

Questions for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

International cooperation against corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.7)

International cooperation in criminal matters (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.8)

Item 4. International drug control

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action (General Assembly resolution 47/100 and draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.14)

Report of the Secretary-General containing the biennial update of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control (resolution 48/112, sect. IV)[7]

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.14 and Corr.1)

Item 5. Advancement of women

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180)[7]

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (resolution 39/125 and draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.16/Rev.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (resolutions 45/124 and 51/68)

Report of the Secretary-General on improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.18)

Report of the Secretary-General on traffic in women and girls (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.20/Rev.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.21)

Item 6. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women (resolution 50/203 and draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.42)[7]

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[7] Submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

Item 7. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Report of the Secretary-General on a new international humanitarian order (General Assembly resolution 51/74)

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.26)

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.27)

Report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.28)

Item 8. Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Documentation

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the implementation of draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.25

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.25)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Representative on the impact of armed conflict on children (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.25)

Item 9. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations (General Assembly decision 49/458)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of the programme of activities of the Decade (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.40/Rev.1)

Item 10. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid (resolution 3380 (XXX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (resolution 2106 A (XX))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.31/Rev.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.32)

Report of the Secretary-General containing proposals to supplement the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.38/Rev.1)

Item 11. Right of peoples to self-determination

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the use of mercenaries as a means of impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.33)

Report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.34)

Item 12. Human rights questions

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Human Rights Committee (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI))[7]

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (resolution 260 A (III))

Report of the Secretary-General on the operations of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (resolutions 36/151 and 51/86)

Report of the Committee against Torture (resolution 39/46, annex)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (resolution 51/86)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.35)

Report of the Secretary-General on the effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.36/Rev.1)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the ninth meeting of persons chairing human rights treaty bodies (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.36/Rev.1)

Question for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (resolution 51/88 and draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.49)

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the question of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (resolution 51/92)

Report of the Secretary-General on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances (resolution 51/94)

Report of the Secretary-General on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights (resolution 51/102)

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening of United Nations actions in the human rights field through the promotion of international

cooperation and the importance of non-electivity, impartiality and objectivity (resolution 51/105 and draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.57)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/72 on the right to development (Economic and Social Council decision 1997/276 and draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.66/Rev.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and unilateral coercive measures (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.46)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.48)

Report of the Secretary-General on protection of United Nations personnel (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.50)

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening of the rule of law (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.53)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation programme of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education and on public information activities in the field of human rights (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.55 and Corr.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on the role of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in assisting the Government and the people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.68)

Questions for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Follow-up to the United Nations Year for Tolerance (resolution 51/95)

Human rights and extreme poverty (resolution 51/97)

Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.47)

Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.67)

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme of technical cooperation aimed at strengthening institutional capacity in the field of human rights in Haiti (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.54)

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Kosovo (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.61)

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.63)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the activities and operations of the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.65)

Questions for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Situation of human rights in Nigeria (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.70)

Situation of human rights in Iraq (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.71)

Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.72)

Situation of human rights in Cuba (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.73)

Situation of human rights in Afghanistan (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.75)

Situation of human rights in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.69/Rev.1)

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (resolution 48/121 and draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.64)

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Documentation

Report of the High Commissioner (resolution 48/141)[7]

1999

Item 1. Report of the Economic and Social Council

Matters calling for action by the General Assembly (Third Committee) or brought to its attention

Documentation

Relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council on questions that do not fall within the purview of the other items on the agenda of the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee

Item 2. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends (General Assembly resolution 51/58)

Report of the Secretary-General and of the Director-General of UNESCO on ways and means for achieving the goal of education for all (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.11/Rev.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.12 on the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons

Report of the Secretary-General on policies and programmes involving youth and on progress made in the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.13)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (Lisbon, 8-12 August 1998) (Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/55)

Item 3. Crime prevention and criminal justice

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.6 on crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women[7]

Item 4. International drug control

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action (General Assembly resolution 47/100)

Item 5. Advancement of women

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (resolution 39/125)

World Survey on the Role of Women in Development (resolutions 40/204 and 49/161)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (resolution 45/124)

Report of the Secretary-General on improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.15/Rev.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.17)

Report of the Secretary-General on violence against women migrant workers (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.19)

Item 6. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women (resolution 50/203)

Item 7. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Item 8. Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Representative on the question of children in armed conflict (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.25)

Item 9. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of the programme of activities of the Decade (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.40/Rev.1)

Item 10. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid (resolution 3380 (XXX))

Item 11. Right of peoples to self-determination

Item 12. Human rights questions

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Human Rights Committee (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI))[7]

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (resolution 260 A (III))

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenants on Human Rights (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.37)

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.45)

Report of the Secretary-General on effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.51)

Report of the Secretary-General on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.60)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and terrorism (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.58)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and mass exoduses (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.59)

Questions for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.44)

Human rights in the administration of justice (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.52)

Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons (draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.56)

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (resolution 48/121)

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Documentation

Report of the High Commissioner (resolution 48/141)[7]

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DRAFT DECISION II

Report of the Economic and Social Council

The General Assembly takes note of chapters I, IV, V (sections A to C and H) and VII of the report of the Economic and Social Council.[8]

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[8] A/52/3. To be issued in final form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/52/3/Rev.1).